



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 3600

In Re the Application of:

Garth Aaron Hystad

Serial No.: 09/776,530

Filed: February 3, 2001

Atty. File No.: 45303-00070

For: "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
DECK AND RAIL CONSTRUCTION
USING WOOD COMPOSITES"

Group Art Unit: 3635

Examiner: Yvonne M. Horton

MAIL STOP: FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 6, 2004.

Holme Roberts & Owen LLP

By: Lee Berkman

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action of January 5, 2004, Applicant requests entry of the following amendments to the claims. Such amendments place the claims in form for allowance as set forth in the accompanying remarks.

Accordingly, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

App. No. 09/776,530
Amendment dated July 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 5, 2004

Remarks/Argument explaining the proposed claim amendments begin on page 10 of this paper.

In a separate attachment, Applicant requests a three (3) month extension of time.